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GEOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

CUBA

PART XIII: POPULATION



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CUBA

PART XIII: POPULATION

I. General

The population of Cuba, numbering 5,870,854 as of May 1953 (see Table 1), is of heterogeneous composition and is distributed unevenly throughout the Island. From early Spanish colonial days to the present, the growth of population in Cuba has, to a large extent, paralleled the development of the sugar industry; and the racial composition reflects the successive waves of laborers --- Negro slaves, Chinese contract laborers, and, more recently, immigrants from other islands of the Antilles -- brought to Cuba by the white population to work in the canefields and sugar mills.

The 1953 census enumeration, Censos de Población, Viviendas y Electoral: Informe General, is the most recent detailed statistical source available on the population of Cuba and was the principal source used in preparing this report. Although the data are old and changes in absolute numbers obviously have occurred since 1953, the relative population structure probably has not changed significantly in terms of distribution, racial composition, employment, and literacy.

II. Distribution

A relatively high population density prevails in regions of plains and hills and a corresponding low density in mountainous regions and areas of coastal swamps. The actual density ranges from 187.2 persons per square kilometer (484 persons per square mile) in

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CENSO DE POBLACION : CUBA

Tabla 1.—POBLACION TOTAL, POR PROVINCIAS Y MUNICIPIOS: 1953

PINAR DEL RIO		LAS VILLAS		ORIENTE	
Almeida	35,735	1. Abreus	7,098	1. Alto Songo	78,901
Cerro del Rio	31,939	2. Agueda de Piamierco	28,982	2. Atala	32,573
Colombia del Norte	14,672	3. Cabezas	34,973	3. Baracoa	50,386
Colombia del Sur	26,111	4. Cabriana	26,244	4. Baracoa	68,282
Concepcion	50,916	5. Calabazar de Nagua	16,666	5. Baracoa	62,482
Coronel	18,328	6. Camajuaní	26,382	6. Baracoa	166,294
Coronel Funes	34,137	7. Cienfuegos	99,530	7. Baracoa	125,860
Coronel Lopez	20,576	8. Chivatón	10,247	8. Baracoa	51,516
Coronel Lopez	15,274	9. Corralillo	10,599	9. Baracoa	
Coronel Lopez	13,867	10. Crotas	18,738	10. Baracoa	
443,422		11. Encrucijada	19,037	1,030,162	
LA HABANA		12. Esperanza	21,339	618,256	
Aguasabon	11,933	13. Fomento	10,855	1,787,808	
Chambas	13,286	14. La Palma	12,564		
San Juan y Martinez	22,978	15. Plaza	23,798		
San Luis	31,826	16. Quemado de Grimes	39,065		
Vieques	24,519	17. Rancho Velas	48,662		
13,960		18. Ranchuelo			
13,960		19. Rodas			
13,960		20. Segura la Grande			
13,960		21. San Antonio de las Vueltas			
13,960		22. San Bartolomé			
13,960		23. San Diego del Valle			
13,960		24. San Fernando de Camarones			
13,960		25. San Juan de los Remedios			
13,960		26. San Juan de los Yeros			
13,960		27. Santa Clara			
13,960		28. Santa Isabel de las Lajas			
13,960		29. Santo Domingo			
13,960		30. Trinidad			
13,960		31. Yaguajay			
13,960		32. Zulueta			
13,960		33. Zulueta			
13,960		34. Zulueta			
13,960		35. Zulueta			
13,960		36. Zulueta			
13,960		37. Zulueta			
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13,960		90. Zulueta			
13,960		91. Zulueta			
13,960		92. Zulueta			
13,960		93. Zulueta			
13,960		94. Zulueta			
13,960		95. Zulueta			
13,960		96. Zulueta			
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13,960		100. Zulueta			
13,960		101. Zulueta			
13,960		102. Zulueta			
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13,960		104. Zulueta			
13,960		105. Zulueta			
13,960		106. Zulueta			
13,960		107. Zulueta			
13,960		108. Zulueta			
13,960		109. Zulueta			
13,960		110. Zulueta			
13,960		111. Zulueta			
13,960		112. Zulueta			
13,960		113. Zulueta			
13,960		114. Zulueta			
13,960		115. Zulueta			
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13,960		121. Zulueta			
13,960		122. Zulueta			
13,960		123. Zulueta			
13,960		124. Zulueta			
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13,960		127. Zulueta			
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13,960		132. Zulueta			
13,960		133. Zulueta			
13,960		134. Zulueta			
13,960		135. Zulueta			
13,960		136. Zulueta			
13,960		137. Zulueta			
13,960		138. Zulueta			
13,960		139. Zulueta			
13,960		140. Zulueta			
13,960		141. Zulueta			
13,960		142. Zulueta			
13,960		143. Zulueta			
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13,960		145. Zulueta			
13,960		146. Zulueta			
13,960		147. Zulueta			

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La Habana Province to 23.5 persons per square kilometer (61 persons per square mile) in Camagüey Province. Well over 50 percent of the total population resides in Oriente and La Habana Provinces (31 percent and 26 percent, respectively), and 21 percent is concentrated within the Havana metropolitan area.* (See Map 1.)

Even though the Cuban economy is primarily agricultural, 57 percent of the population resides in urban zones and only 43 percent in rural areas. These figures, however, are somewhat misleading because an urban zone, for purposes of the 1953 census enumeration, was defined as "a population center of 150 inhabitants or more which has electrical, medical, legal, and recreational services, or which is located in close proximity to and is functionally related to another population center having these services." Thus many of the so-called urban zones are little more than workers' settlements situated in rural areas where agriculturally-oriented activities (such as the operation of sugar mills and the intensive cultivation of tobacco) require an above-average concentration of workers. The rural population as designated in the census enumeration consists mainly of families residing in isolated dwellings on fincas (farms) rather than in settlements.

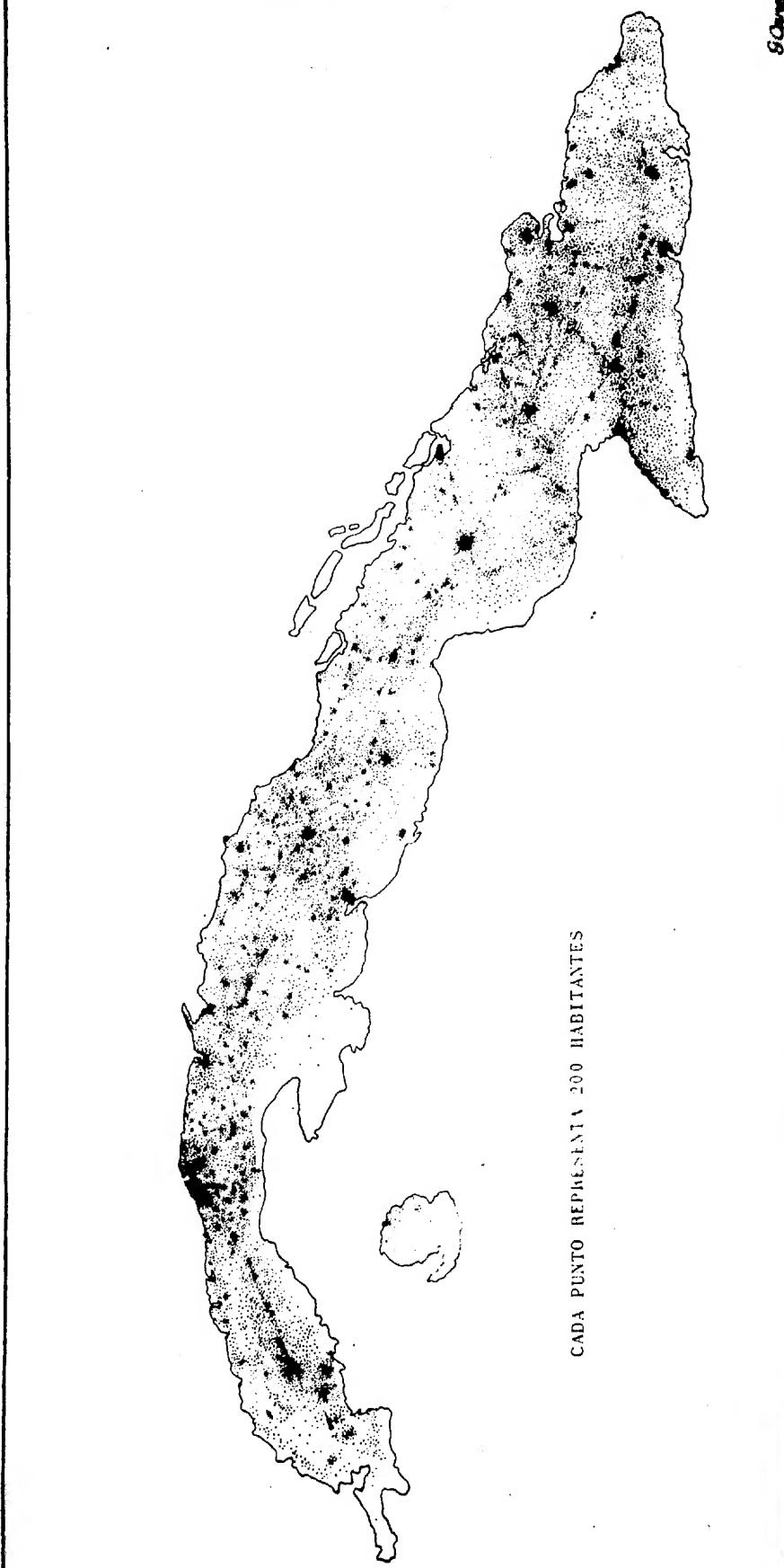
Considering the urban population as a whole, 35 percent lives in cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants; 23 percent in cities of

* The Havana metropolitan area includes the urban zones of La Habana, Marianao, Guanabacoa, Santiago de las Vegas, Regla, Bauta, and Santa María del Rosario municipios.

INTRODUCCION

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GRÁFICO 9.—DISTRIBUCIÓN GEOGRÁFICA DE LA POBLACIÓN TOTAL DE CUBA: 1953



Map 1. Distribution of Population, 1953

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25,000 to 100,000 inhabitants; 20 percent in cities of 5,000 to 25,000 inhabitants; and 22 percent in urban communities of less than 5,000 inhabitants. Clusters of urban centers are in evidence particularly along the route of the Central Highway and in proximity to the cities of La Habana, Santiago de Cuba, and Santa Clara. (See Table 2 for a listing by province of urban centers with 1,000 or more inhabitants and Map 2 for the geographic distribution of urban centers by relative size.

III. Racial Composition

Racially the population of Cuba consists of whites, Negroes, members of the yellow race, and mestizos. The white population in Cuba is predominantly of Spanish descent, and the yellow population is almost entirely of Chinese descent. As defined for purposes of the 1953 census enumeration the term mestizo is applied to persons of mixed race -- whether white-Negro, white-yellow, or Negro-yellow. The total number of persons enumerated as of a white-yellow or Negro-yellow racial mixture was statistically insignificant as compared with the large number of white-Negro mestizos.

Persons of white skin constitute nearly 74 percent of the total population and are about evenly divided between urban and rural dwellers. Mestizos and Negroes together comprise 26 percent of the total population (14 percent and 12 percent, respectively), and persons of yellow skin constitute approximately 0.3 percent of the population. Somewhat more than half the mestizos and Negroes reside

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Table 2—NUCLEOS URBANOS DE 1,000 HABITANTES Y MAS, POR PROVINCIAS: 1953*

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Núcleos urbanos	Población	Núcleos urbanos	Población	Núcleos urbanos	Población	Núcleos urbanos	Población	Núcleos urbanos	Población
PINAR DEL RÍO									
De 50,000 a 50,000: Pinar del Río.	38,885	LA HABANA—Cont.		LAS VILLAS—Cont.		ORIENTE			
De 10,000 a 25,000: Artemisa.	17,441	Palos.	4,042	Central Marta.	1,095	De 100,000 y más: Santiago de Cuba.	163,237		
Guanajay.	12,008	Punta Brava.	4,866	Central Narciso.	1,051	De 50,000 a 100,000: Guantánamo.	64,671		
De 5,000 a 10,000: Consolación del Sur.	6,146	Quivicá.	4,018	Central Victoria.	1,190	Holguín.	57,573		
Los Palacios.	5,260	Eslavónio Nacional.	1,478	Cifuentes.	2,288				
De 1,000 a 5,000: Bahía Honda.	3,042	Rincón.	3,018	Congolás.	1,060	De 25,000 a 50,000: Manzanillo.	42,252		
Cabezas.	2,226	MATANZAS		Corralillo.	1,123	Mansanillo.	25,421		
Candelaria.	3,848	San Antonio de las Vegas.	1,512	Cumanayagüa.	4,679	Palma Soriano.	20,481		
Cañas.	1,789	San Antonio de Río Blanco.	2,306	El Santo.	2,219	Victoria de las Tunas.			
Central Merceditas.	1,146	San Felipe.	1,383	Encrucijada.	4,791				
Central Orosco.	1,740	Santa Cruz del Norte.	3,537	Española.	4,712	De 10,000 a 25,000: Banes.	20,257		
Central Pilar.	1,181	Santa María del Rosario.	1,824	Falcón.	1,135	Baracoa.	11,459		
Central San Cristóbal.	1,162	LA HABANA		General Lino Pérez.	1,041	Bayamo.	20,178		
Concepción del Norte.	2,254	Tapate.	1,431	Guao.	1,197	San Luis.	11,110		
Quínoa.	4,070	Vereda Nueva.	1,907	Guasimal.	1,752				
Isabel Rubio.	1,894	Wajay.	1,252	Isabela de Sagua.	3,701				
La Coloma.	1,907	MATANZAS							
Mariel.	4,511	De 50,000 a 100,000: Matanzas.	63,916	Manacas.	2,515	De 5,000 a 10,000: Antilla.	6,481		
Matahambre.	4,580	De 25,000 a 50,000: Cárdenas.	43,750	Manicaragua.	3,993	Caimanera.	5,647		
Pase Real de San Diego.	1,488	De 10,000 a 25,000: Colón.	15,755	Macas.	1,349	Campechuela.	5,536		
Puerta del Golpe.	1,512	Jovellanos.	10,444	Mataguá.	1,214	Central Chaparra.	5,604		
Puerto Esperanza.	1,867	LA HABANA		Mayajigua.	2,950	Central Delicias.	5,849		
Quiabla Hachá.	1,584	De 5,000 a 10,000: Jagüey Grande.	5,244	Meneses.	1,650	Cueto.	5,983		
San Cristóbal.	4,638	Pedro Betancourt.	6,863	Poza la China.	4,852	Gibara.	8,144		
San Juan y Martínes.	4,865	Perico.	6,041	Quemado de Guines.	4,840	Jiquíman.	6,940		
San Luis.	2,785	Unión de Reyes.	5,851	Rancho Veloz.	1,943	Laguna Blanca.	5,920		
Santa Lucía.	1,698	LA HABANA		Ranchuelo.	4,288	La Maya.	5,037		
Vilnales.	1,602	De 1,000 a 5,000: Agramonte.	2,948	Rodas.	4,569	Mayari.	6,386		
		Alaconane.	3,165	Rodrigo.	1,827	Niquero.	7,204		
		Amarillas.	1,935	San Antonio de las Vueltas.	8,020	Puerto Padre.	9,705		
		Banagüiles.	1,245	San Fernando de Camarones.	1,096	Sagua de Táñamo.	7,604		
		Bolondrón.	3,444	CAMAGÜEY		San Germán.	5,802		
		Calimete.	2,260	San Juan de los Yeras.	2,361	De 1,000 a 5,000: Alto Songo.	2,197		
		Canas.	1,103	Santo Domingo.	4,728	Baire.	3,957		
		Carlos Rojas.	2,163	Sitiocto.	1,213	Bartle.	1,052		
		Celba Mocha.	1,288	Taguasco.	2,642	Cacocum.	2,724		
		Central Alava.	1,031	Tunas de Zata.	1,380	Cauey.	2,009		
		Central España.	1,600	CAMAGÜEY		Cayo Mambi.	1,553		
		Central Mercedes.	1,192	Central Jobabo.	3,248	Central Jobabo.			
		Central Tingüaro.	1,212	Central La Cuchas.	1,083	Central Mabay.	2,405		
		Céspedes.	1,003	Central Maceo.	1,483	Central Manatí.	2,818		
		Cidra (Santa Ana).	1,463	De 100,000 y más: Camagüey.	110,888	Central Miranda.	2,186		
		Coliseo.	1,765	De 25,000 a 50,000: Ciego de Ávila.	35,178	Central Preston.	3,827		
		Guareiras.	1,122	De 10,000 a 25,000: Florida.	21,159	Central Río Cauto.	3,174		
		Güira de Macurijes.	1,187	Morón.	18,629	Central Romelie.	1,066		
		Juan Gualberto Gómez.	2,570	Nuevitas.	12,390	Central Salvador.	1,520		
		Limónar.	3,801	CAMAGÜEY		Central San Antonio.	1,300		
		LAS VILLAS		De 5,000 a 10,000: Central Elia.	5,447	Central San Ramón.	1,037		
		Los Arabos.	1,690	Guayabal.	5,889	Central Santa Cecilia.	1,101		
		Manguito.	2,569	Ignacio Agramonte (Vertientes).	7,021	Central Soledad.	1,245		
		Marti.	2,605	CAMAGÜEY		Central Tacajó.	1,298		
		San Antonio de Cabezas.	2,300	De 1,000 a 5,000: Cascorro.	2,442	Central Táñamo.	2,032		
		San José de los Ranchos.	1,268	Ceballos.	1,405	Cobre.	2,586		
		Varadero.	2,640	Central Baraguá.	2,287	Cristo.	3,160		
		LAS VILLAS		Central Cunagua.	1,879	Deleite.	1,188		
		De 50,000 a 100,000: Cienfuegos.	57,991	Central Lugareño.	3,185	Dos Caminos.	2,004		
		Santa Clara.	77,998	CAMAGÜEY		Dos Caminos del Cobre.	2,278		
		LAS VILLAS		Central Santa Marta.	1,326	Entrada de Holguín.	1,203		
		De 25,000 a 50,000: Placetas.	25,226	Central Senado.	1,314	Fray Benito.	1,456		
		Sagua la Grande.	26,187	Central Stewart.	1,943	Guamá.	1,600		
		Sancti-Spiritus.	87,741	Central Velasco.	1,173	Guamo.	2,507		
		LAS VILLAS		Céspedes.	4,410	Guara.	1,362		
		De 10,000 a 25,000: Cabaiguán.	15,399	Chambas.	3,046	Guá.	2,857		
		Caibarién.	22,667	Esmeralda.	4,191	Guíme.	1,392		
		Camajuaní.	12,574	Falla.	1,876	Juan Vicente.	2,370		
		Cruces.	10,704	Gaspar.	1,740	Jutinícu.	1,160		
		Remedios.	10,602	Guadalupe.	1,098	Kingston.	1,818		
		Trinidad.	16,756	CAMAGÜEY		La Rioja.	1,818		
		LAS VILLAS		Guáimaro.	4,503	Loe Indios.	1,103		
		De 5,000 a 10,000: Aguada de Pasajeros.	5,112	Guayacanes.	1,029	Maffo.	2,804		
		Fomento.	7,882	Hatuey.	1,737	Minas de Bueycito.	1,199		
		Guayos.	5,509	Jatibonico.	4,583	Nicaro.	3,074		
		Palmita.	6,261	Jiquí.	1,135	Palmarito.	1,985		
		Santa Isabel de las Lajas.	5,382	Jicaro.	1,411	Pílón.	2,489		
		Yaguajay.	5,191	Kinston Barrio.	1,448	Río Seco.	1,615		
		LAS VILLAS		Majagua.	2,289	San Andrés.	1,655		
		De 1,000 a 5,000: Abreas.	1,682	Minas.	8,827	San Fernando.	1,104		
		Baez.	2,223	Piedrecitas.	1,619	San Manuel.	2,105		
		Buenavista.	1,314	Pina.	3,667	San Martin.	2,020		
		Calabazar de Sagua.	3,286	Punta Alegre.	4,068	Santa Rita.	1,655		
		Cartagena.	1,239	Santa Cruz del Sur.	2,781	Tigubatos.	1,286		
		LAS VILLAS		Sibanié.	3,878	Veguitas.	2,014		
		Cascajal.	1,493	Simón Reyes.	1,804	Velasco.	1,444		
		Casilda.	2,445	Sola.	1,724	Yara.	3,246		
		Cauno.	8,408	CAMAGÜEY		Yarey de Vásques.	1,812		
		Central Agabama.	1,416			Yateras.	2,192		
		Central Constancia.	1,157			Zarzal.	1,421		

* Se emplea el criterio de la menor diferencia entre los precios de los artículos en el año de 1925 y el año de 1926 para establecer la variación en la calidad. Este cambio se debe a que el criterio de la menor diferencia entre los precios de los artículos en el año de 1925 y el año de 1926 para establecer la variación en la calidad.

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in urban areas, whereas 89 percent of the persons of yellow skin are concentrated in urban areas. (See Tables 3 and 4.)

Table 3
Racial Composition by Provinces

Race	Pinar del Río	La Habana	Matanzas	Las Villas	Camagüey	Oriente
White	357,252	1,184,493	307,230	849,242	483,405	1,062,334
Negro	63,463	176,601	47,622	94,628	81,554	261,443
Yellow	368	9,005	1,216	1,657	1,835	2,576
Mestizo	27,339	168,704	39,712	84,635	51,462	471,253
Total	<u>448,422</u>	<u>1,538,803</u>	<u>395,780</u>	<u>1,030,162</u>	<u>618,256</u>	<u>1,797,606</u>

Table 4
Urban and Rural Population by Race in Percentages

Race	Pinar del Río		La Habana		Matanzas		Las Villas		Camagüey		Oriente	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
White	32	68	90	10	53	47	45	55	50	50	38	62
Negro	41	59	97	3	77	23	72	28	42	58	48	52
Yellow	70	30	96	4	83	17	92	8	83	17	76	24
Mestizo	45	55	98	2	81	19	69	31	56	44	39	61

Although widely distributed throughout Cuba, the proportion of people defined as colored (Negroes, mestizos, and Chinese) to whites varies considerably by province and municipio. (See Maps 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.) Approximately 66 percent of the colored population is concentrated in the provinces of Oriente and La Habana.

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Of the pure Negro population, 36 percent reside in Oriente Province and 24 percent in La Habana Province. Within Oriente Province the heaviest concentration of Negroes (55 percent) occurs in six municipios in the Santiago de Cuba-Guantánamo region, and in La Habana Province more than 80 percent is concentrated in the Havana metropolitan area alone.

Of the mestizo population, slightly more than 50 percent lives in Oriente Province and another 20 percent in La Habana Province.

In Oriente Province the mestizo population is dispersed fairly widely throughout the agricultural areas, whereas in La Habana Province more than 65 percent is concentrated in the Havana metropolitan area.

The Chinese reside in the larger urban areas of the country, where they operate small businesses such as groceries, restaurants, laundries, and truck farms. Fifty-six percent of the total Chinese population is concentrated in La Habana Province and 15 percent in Oriente Province. The Chinese constitute more than 1 percent of the local population only in the municipios of La Habana, Isla de Pinos, and Nueva Paz in La Habana Province and of Alto Songo and Guantánamo in Oriente Province. A significant aspect of the Chinese minority is the disproportionate sex ratio, with 90 percent of the Chinese population being male. The Chinese community includes a large number of Cuban wives -- both legal and common-law. Presumably the children of these unions are reported as mestizos in the census enumeration.

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

The native Indian population of Cuba was almost wiped out by the early Spanish conquerors, but small numbers of mestizos with marked Indian physical characteristics are encountered in the rugged mountain regions of Oriente Province. Presumably small numbers of Indians survived in these remote areas and intermarried with local white and Negro settlers.

IV. Religion

Statistical data are not available on religious affiliation, but the Roman Catholic religion is predominant.

V. Occupational Structure

The total labor force as of May 1953 was comprised of 2.1 million persons, or 54 percent of the population aged 14 years or more. The active labor force numbered about 2 million persons who were employed in some occupation during the year prior to the census enumeration. Many of these people had only seasonal employment, however, and were either unemployed or underemployed during the off season. Approximately 83 percent of the labor force was of the male sex, and only 17 percent was female.

More than 60 percent of the labor force resides in urban zones. This situation is explained in part by the seasonal migration of workers from urban zones to the sugar centrals during the grinding season and back to the cities during the off season and in part by the official classification of bateyes (residential areas associated with the sugar mills) as urban zones.

S-E-C-R-E-T

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Slightly more than 41 percent of the active labor force was employed in agricultural work as of 1953. Although the agricultural population was distributed widely throughout the country, the largest concentrations of workers were in the two provinces of Oriente and Las Villas, which accounted for 37 percent and 22 percent of this occupational group, respectively.

Persons employed in service activities comprised the next largest occupational group (20 percent of the active labor force), and more than 50 percent of them were concentrated in La Habana Province.

The manufacturing industry employed 17 percent of the active labor force in 1953. La Habana Province accounted for 38 percent of this occupational group, and most of the remainder was located in cities of 25,000 or more inhabitants in various parts of the country.

About 12 percent of the active labor force was engaged in commerce, and, as in the manufacturing industry, about 40 percent of this occupational group was concentrated in La Habana Province, with most of the remainder in various cities of 25,000 or more inhabitants.

Utilities, transportation and communications, and the construction industry together employed another 9 percent of the active labor force. In each of these enterprises approximately 50 percent of the workers were concentrated in La Habana Province.

Of the remaining 1 percent of the active labor force, mining accounted for 0.5 percent. The other 0.5 percent was employed in unspecified occupations. Slightly more than half the miners were employed in Oriente Province, with the largest concentrations in the Mayari and Jiguani mining areas.

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Percentage figures for the distribution of population by occupation are given for each of the six provinces of Cuba in Table 5.

Table 5
Employment of Active Labor Force by Province

Type of Employment	Pinar del Río	La Habana	Matanzas	Las Villas	Camagüey	Oriente	Percent
Agriculture	62	10	46	52	54	57	
Manufacturing	12	21	18	17	15	13	
Construction	2	6	3	2	2	2	
Commerce	8	16	10	10	10	10	
Transportation, communications	3	8	5	4	5	4	
Services	11	36	16	14	13	12	
Other	2	3	2	1	1	2	

Wages in Cuba are generally high compared with those of other countries in similar economic circumstances. Wages paid in the larger enterprises generally run well above the legal monthly minimum of 60 pesos (\$60.00). Pay rates, however, vary considerably between companies within a given industry and between general categories of industry. Wages paid in the sugar industry represent a fixed percentage of the Government's estimate of the average price of sugar for the coming year. In the event that the average price exceeds the estimate, wages are then adjusted retroactively to conform with the higher average price.

Data on prevailing wages or earnings are not published by the Cuban Government. Table 6 gives some indication of comparative wage

Table 6. Selected Pay Rates in Havana in 1955

(Excerpted from Foreign Labor Information: Labor in Cuba,
U.S. Department of Labor, May 1957)

Employer and Occupation	Wages or Salaries (in pesos or dollars)		
	Lowest	Highest	Average
10 leading companies 1/			
Messengers and office boys	\$ 90.00	\$227.00	\$116.00
Simple office work, such as mimeo-graphing	110.00	227.00	151.00
Stenographers, chiefly Spanish language	120.00	330.00	187.00
Secretaries, bilingual	200.00	385.00	296.00
Accountants	187.00	497.00	308.00
Monthly rates			
Unskilled laborers71	1.07	.92
Mechanics, third class99	1.46	1.20
Mechanics, first class	1.25	1.83	1.45
Hourly rates 2/			
Bricklayers, concrete-form carpenters, and rodmen	-	-	.75
Helpers and laborers	-	-	.47
Construction industry			
Welders	-	-	1.09
Ironworkers	-	-	.90
Reinforced steel workers	-	-	.75
Helpers of skilled workers	-	-	.60
Laborers	-	-	.47
Daily rates 2/			
United Fruit Co. 4/			
Stevedores and winchmen	-	-	9.56
Tally clerks, longshoremen, tractor operators	-	-	8.60
Foremen, general	-	-	14.11

1/ Companies engaged in manufacturing, utilities, petroleum, and banking, principally in Havana. Only 9 companies reported on manual workers. Data exclude Christmas bonuses and sick-leave allowances.

2/ Including the 9.09 percent allowance for 48 hours' pay for 44 hours' work, but not including vacation pay.

3/ Minimum wage rates established in 1949 and still accepted as the current going rate by unions in the industry in 1955.

4/ November 1954 rates. Overtime rates are double those listed. Source: Foreign Service Report No. 229, Havana, September 20, 1955.

rates paid in 1955 by 10 leading companies in La Habana for a variety of jobs. In February 1958, it was reported that several of the pay rates listed had been increased 7 to 10 percent above the 1955 level.

The regular workday is 8 hours and the workweek is 44 hours, but a workweek of 56 hours is authorized in the sugar industry during the harvest season. Industries, offices, and commercial establishments generally are closed on Sundays. During June, July, and August, shops that are normally open on Saturday must give employees 1 free day each week in addition to Sunday. Banks have had a 5-day workweek since 1948; and many offices, particularly in larger establishments, have followed their example. Government offices are usually open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5 days per week.

VI. Literacy

Literacy is relatively high in Cuba. Of the total population aged 10 years or more, 76 percent was reported as literate in the 1953 census enumeration. Some disparity was shown between the urban and rural population, however, with 83 percent of the urban population reported as literate as opposed to only 58 percent of the rural population (see Table 7).

Table 7
Percentage of Literacy by Province

	Pinar del Río	La Habana	Matanzas	Las Villas	Camagüey	Oriente
Total population (aged 10 years or more)	69.2	90.8	80.8	75.2	72.7	64.7
Urban population	82.3	92.5	88.5	85.4	86.2	84.2
Rural population	61.8	71.4	69.1	64.3	58.5	50.3

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A further percentage breakdown of literacy by municipio is provided in the 1953 Census, but the municipio figures do not differ significantly from the province figures in most cases.

Literacy data by racial group were not included in the 1953 Census. Fragmentary information on the Chinese community, however, is available from another source, dated December 1950. Most of the Chinese are literate in their own language. Cantonese is the dialect spoken almost exclusively by the Chinese colony in Cuba. Nearly all of the Chinese speak some pidgin Spanish. The degree of proficiency in Spanish varies from very poor to very good, but generally only those who learn it when they are young become fluent. Most of the Chinese colony can read Spanish, but cannot write it, and a few can read some English.

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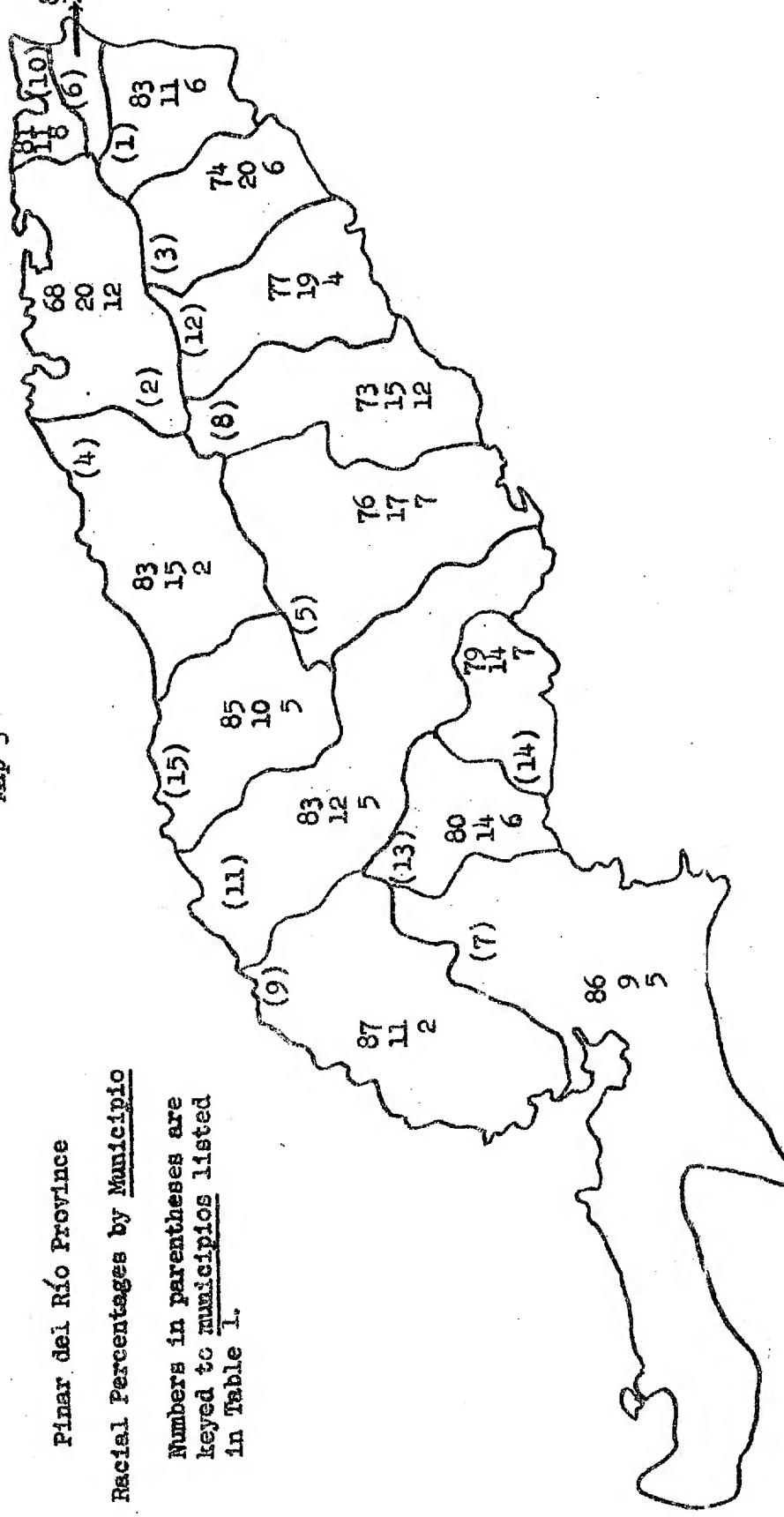
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Map 3

Pinar del Río Province

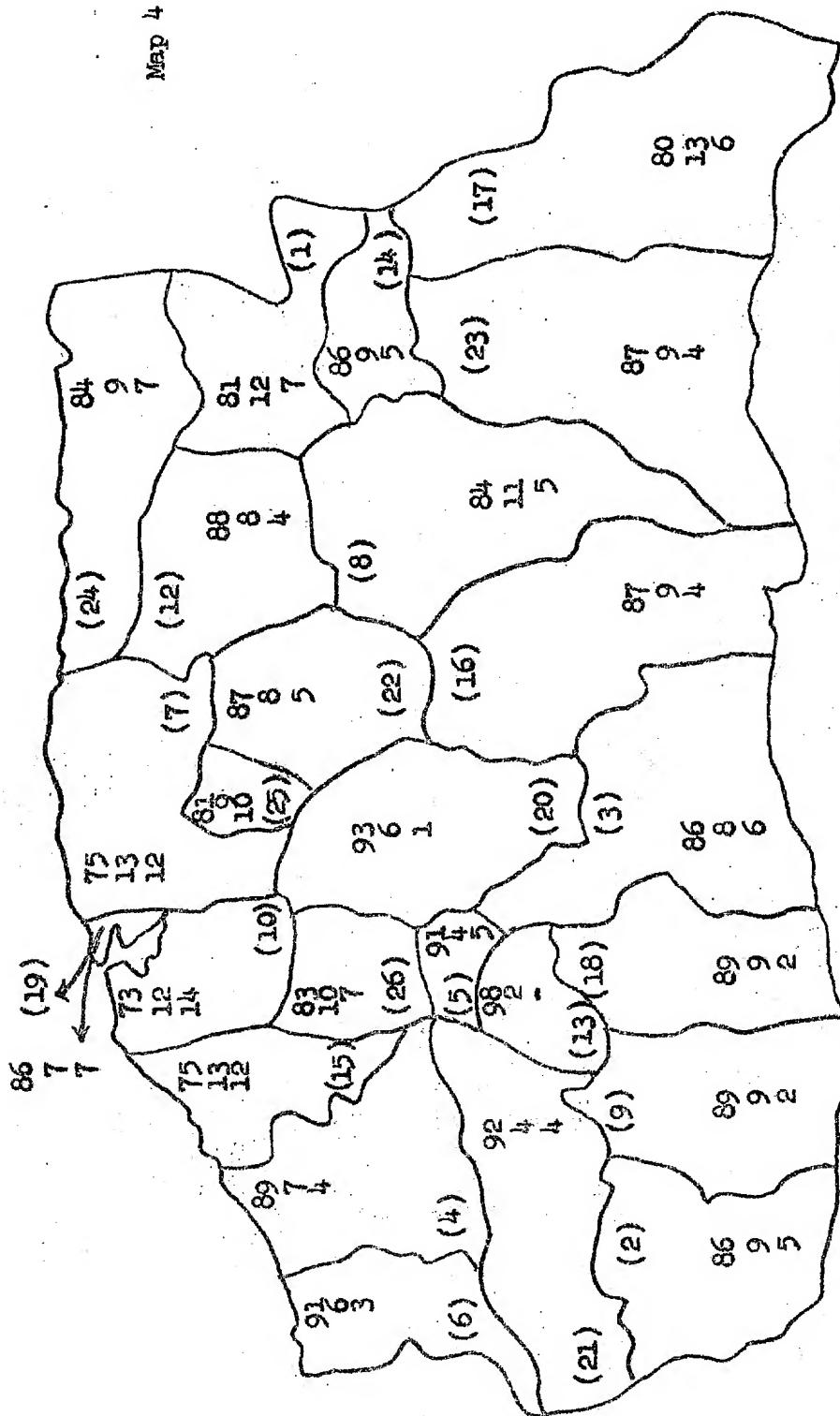
Racial Percentages by Municipio

Numbers in parentheses are
keyed to municipios listed
in Table 1.



The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order:
white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Guane (7) is 86% white, 9% Negro, and 5% mestizo.

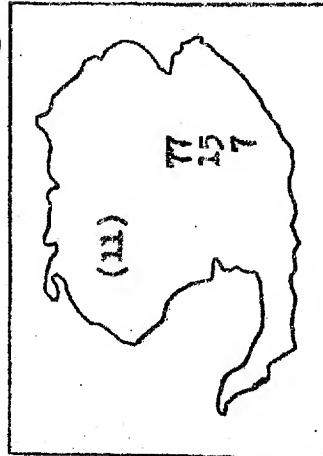
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La Habana Province

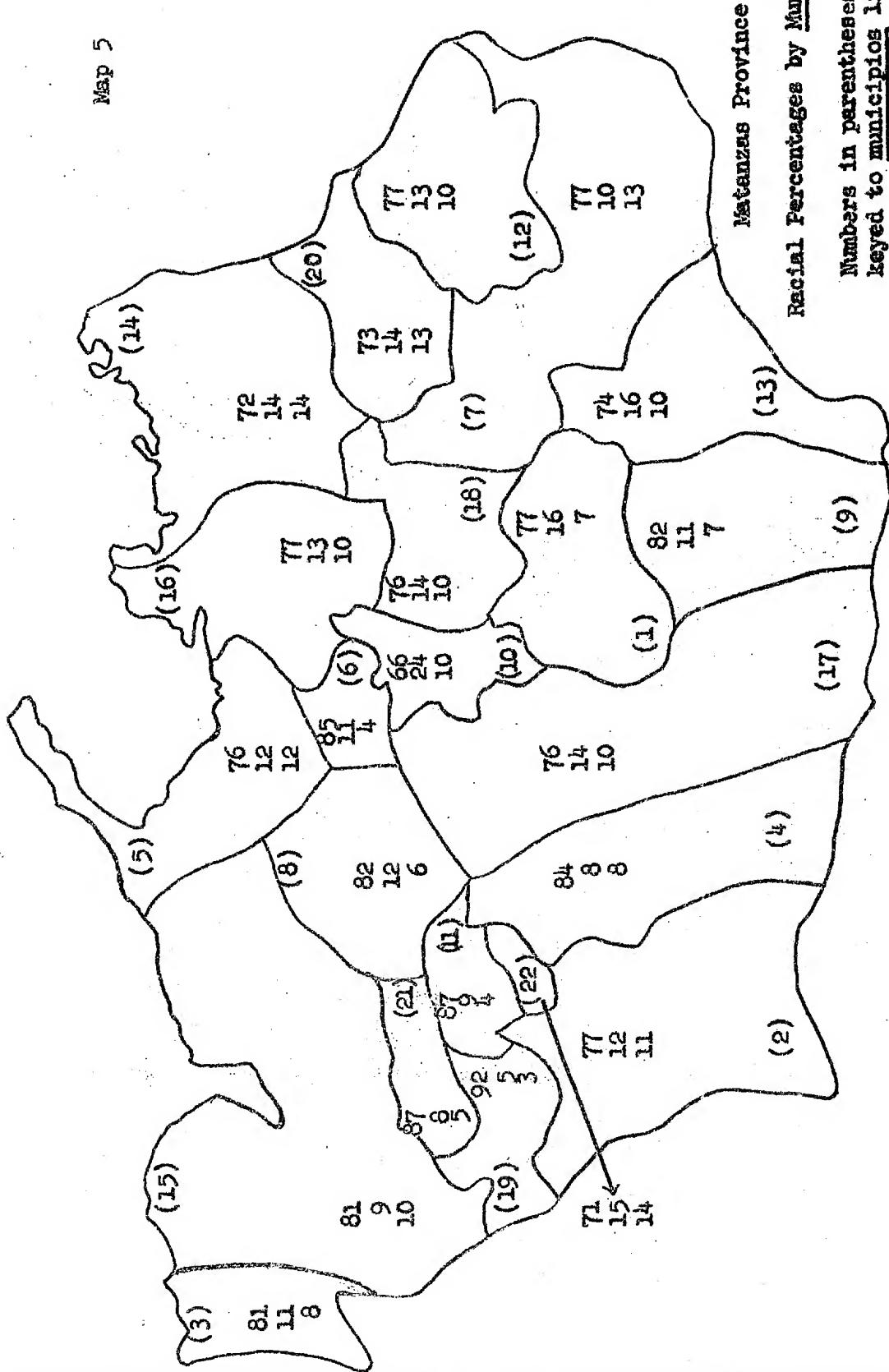
Racial Percentages by Municipio

Numbers in parentheses are
keyed to municipios listed
in Table I.



The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in
the following order: white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of
Batabanó (3) is 86% white, 8% Negro, and 6% mestizo.

Note: The yellow race constitutes a significant element of the popu-
lation in the municipios of Habana (1%), Nueva Paz (1%), and
Isla de Pinos (1.5%).



The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order:
white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Alacranes (2) is 77% white, 12% Negro, and 11% mestizo.
Numbers in parentheses are keyed to municipios listed in Table 1.

Map 6

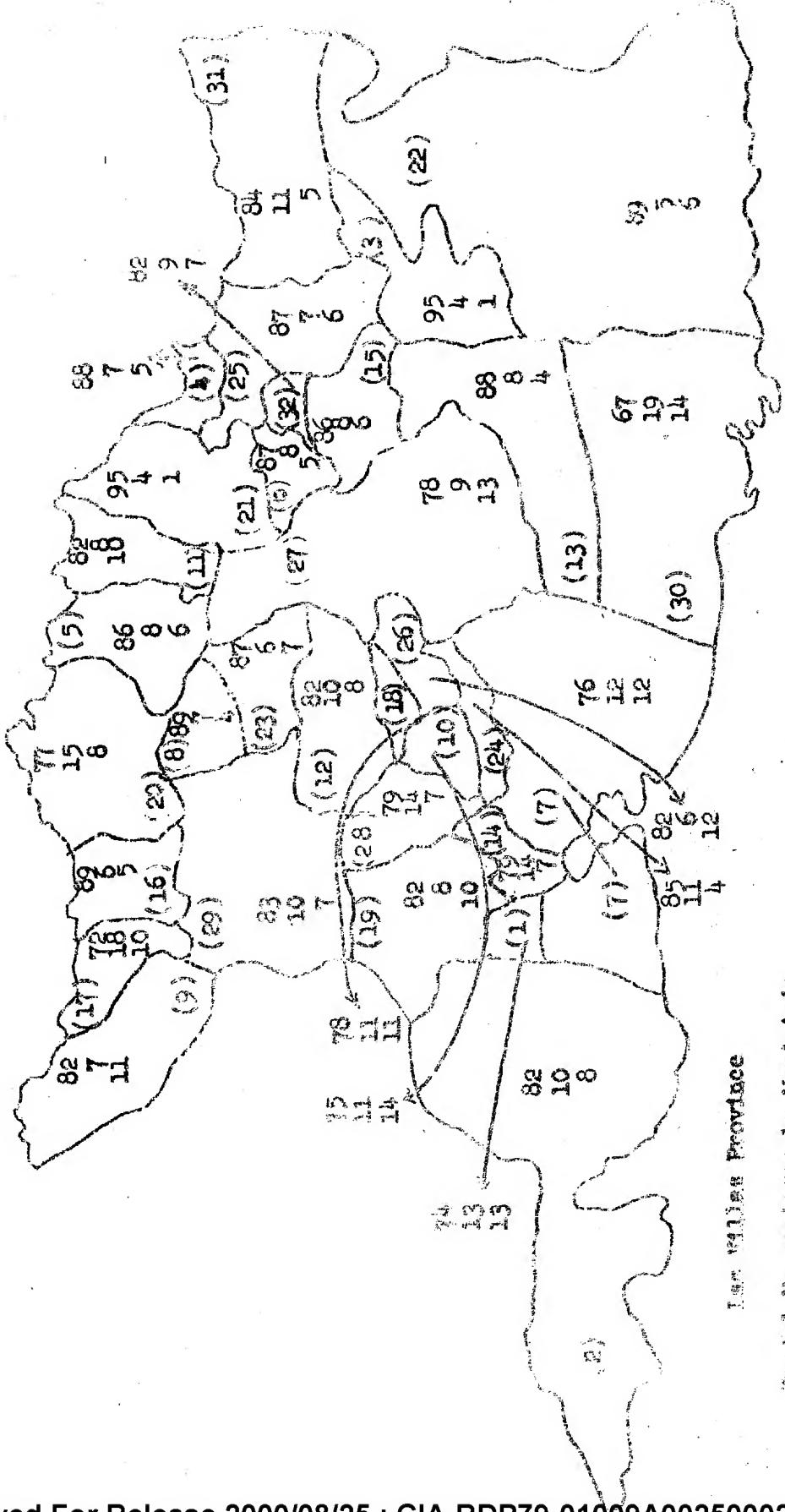


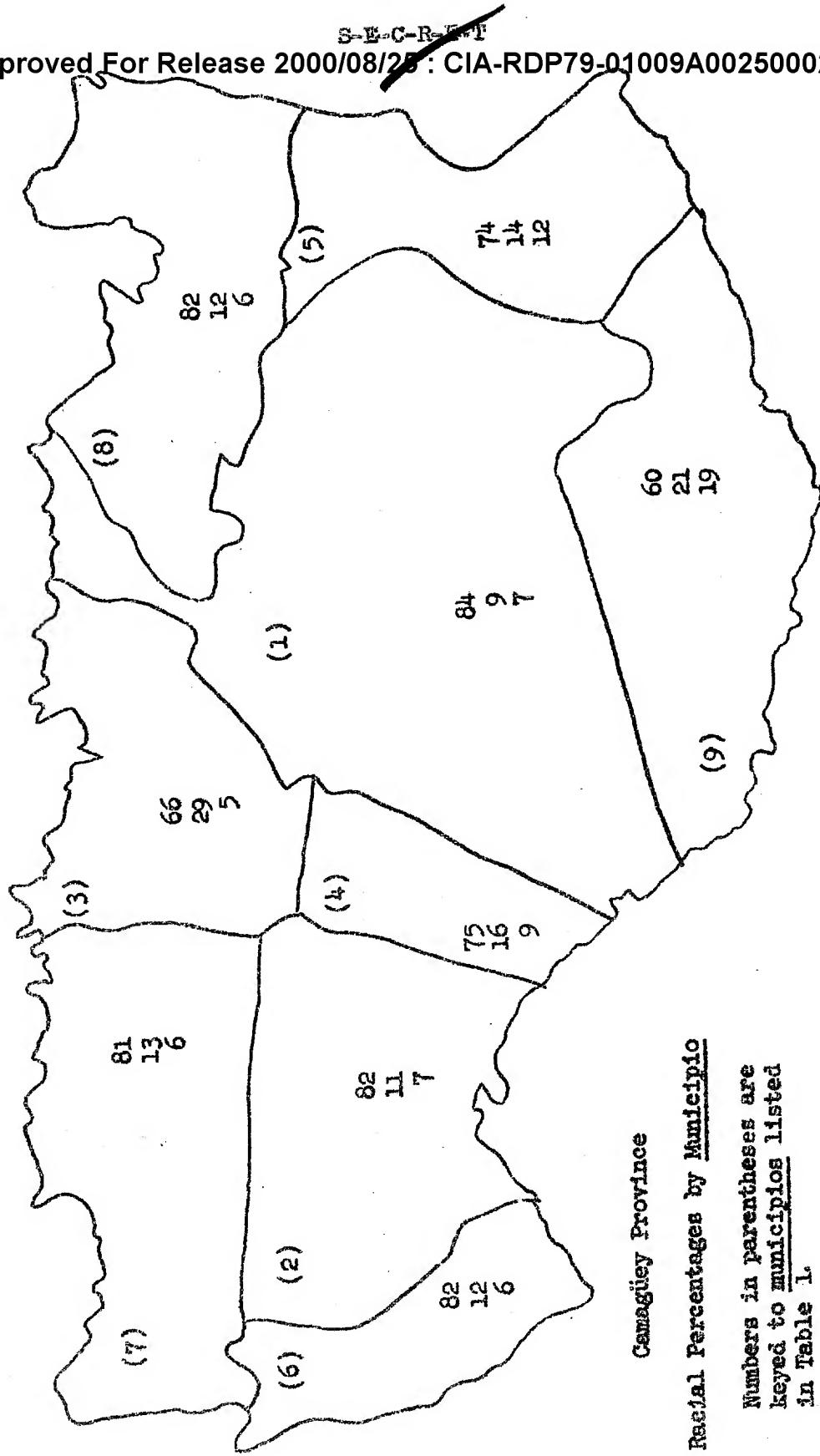
Table 13. Percentage by Municipio
Numbers in parentheses are keyed to municipios listed in Table 1.

The three percentage figures indicated for each Municipio are listed in the following order: white, Negro, mestizo.
E.g., the Municipio of Trinidad (30) is 67% white, 19% Negro, and 14% mestizo.

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Map 7



The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order:
White, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Florida (4) is 75% white, 16% Negro, and 9% mestizo.

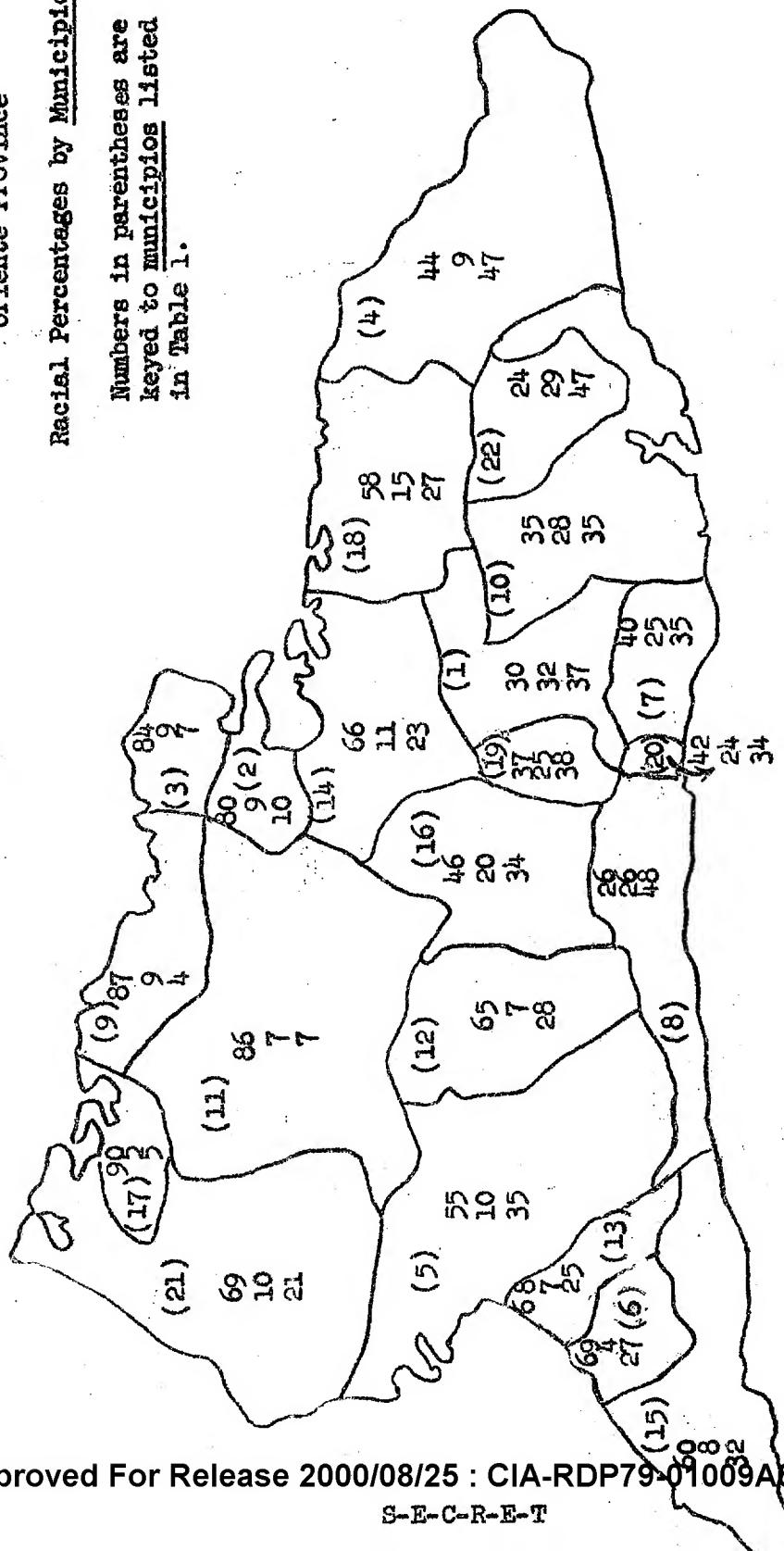
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Map 8

Oriente Province

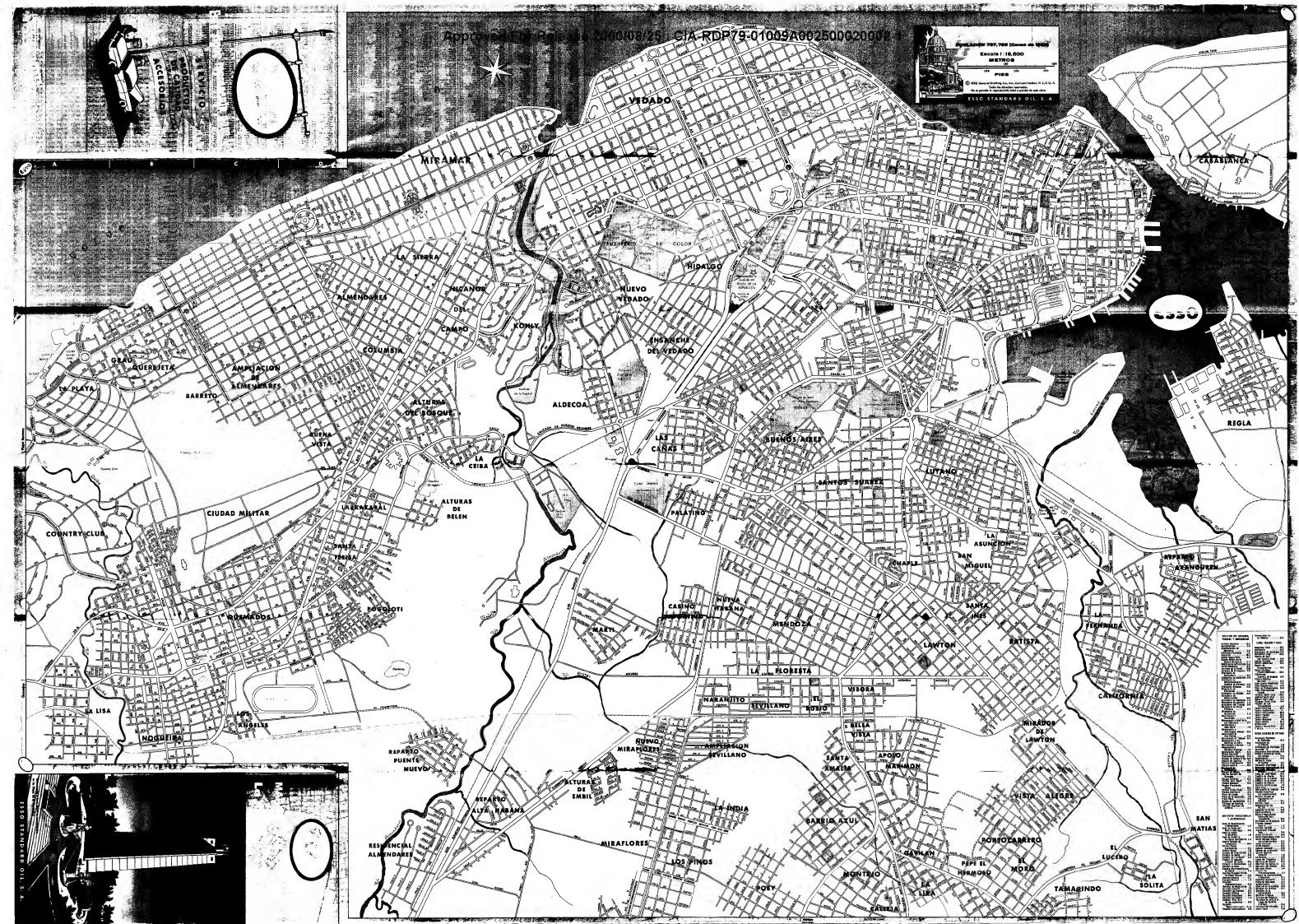
Racial Percentages by Municipio

Numbers in parentheses are
keyed to municipios listed
in Table I.



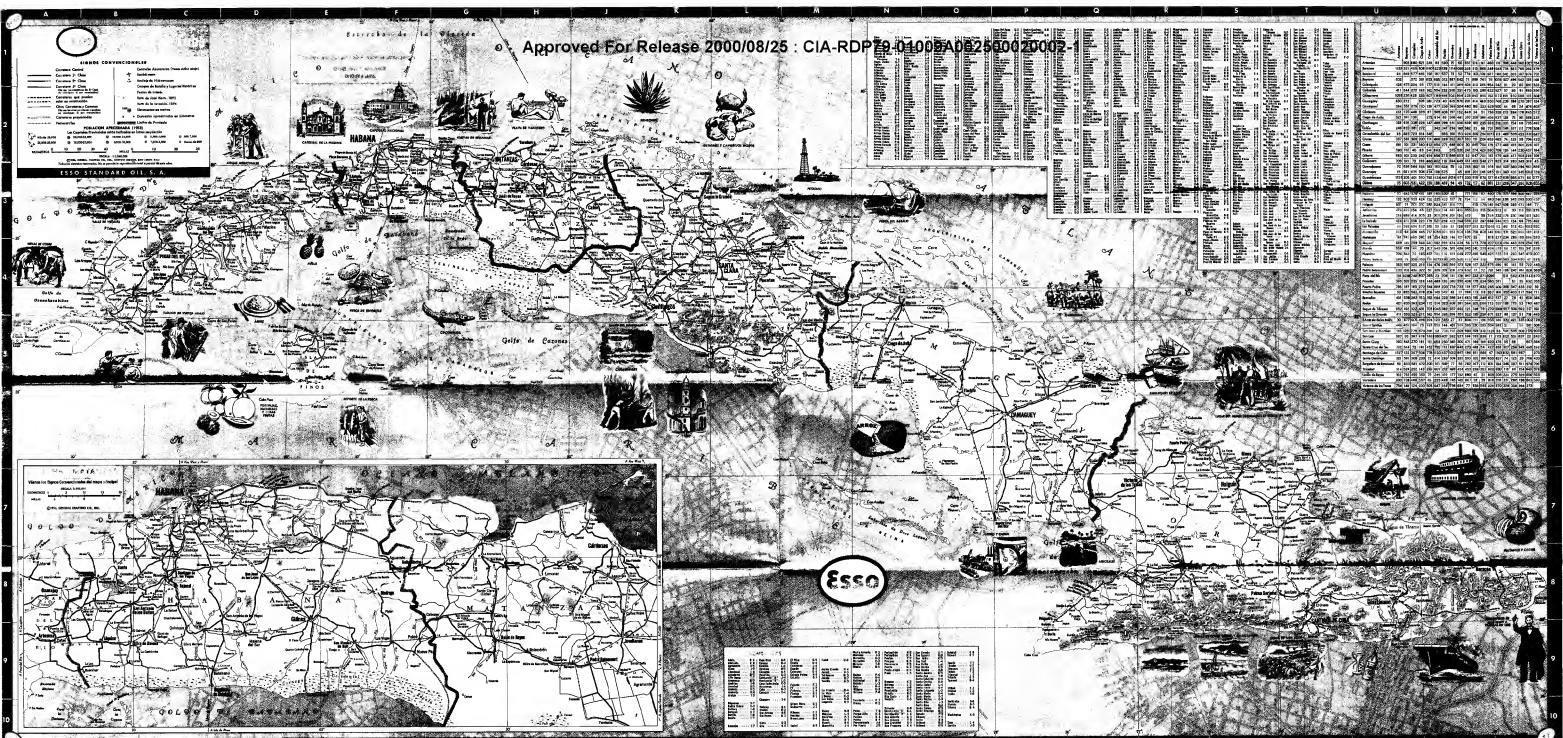
The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order:
white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Cobre (8) is 26% white, 26% Negro, and 48% mestizo.

Note: The yellow race constitutes a significant element of the population in the municipios of
Alto Songo (1%) and Guantánamo (2%).



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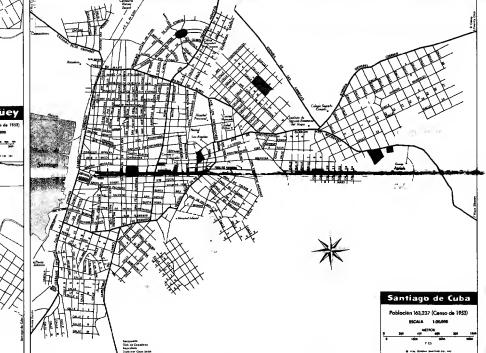
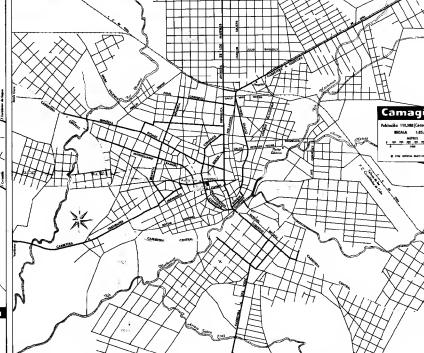
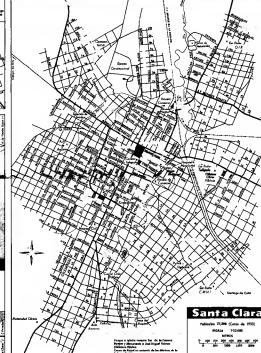
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Piensa Usted viajar en automóvil?

Sí, piense realizar una excursión automovilística por el norte de Cuba. La Habana, Matanzas, Santa Clara, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba y otras ciudades ofrecen las más variadas y hermosas rutas para su disfrute.

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